CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

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LETTER DATED 14 MAY 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE CONFERENCE TRANSMITTING REMARKS BY PRESIDENT CLINTON AT A PRESS CONFERENCE ON 12 MAY CONCERNING INDIAN NUCLEAR TESTING, AS WELL AS THE TEXT OF A STATEMENT BY THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY ON 13 MAY CONCERNING INDIA SANCTIONS

Attached is the text of remarks made by President Clinton at a press conference on 12 May concerning Indian nuclear testing, as well as the text of a statement by the White House press secretary on 13 May concerning India sanctions.

I would be grateful if you would issue these texts as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament and distribute it to all member states and non-member participant states of the CD.

(signed) Robert T. Grey, Jr.
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of the United States to the
Conference on Disarmament

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Remarks by President Clinton at a press conference on May 12, 1998
on the issue of Indian nuclear testing

"I want to make it very, very clear that I am deeply disturbed by the nuclear tests which India has conducted, and I do not believe it contributes to building a safer 21st century. The United States strongly opposes any new nuclear testing. This action by India not only threatens the stability of the region, it directly challenges the firm international consensus to stop the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. I call on India to announce that it will conduct no further tests, and that it will sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty now and without conditions. I also urge India's neighbors not to follow suit -- not to follow down the path of a dangerous arms race. As most of you know, our laws have very stringent provisions, signed into law by me in 1994, in response to nuclear tests by non-nuclear weapons states. And I intend to implement them fully."

Statement by the Press Secretary of the White House, May 13, 1998
India Sanctions

"On Wednesday, May 13, 1998, the President reported to Congress that he had imposed sanctions on India as a consequence of that country's May 11 nuclear test explosion. These sanctions were required by Section 102 of the Arms Export Control Act, otherwise known as the Glenn Amendment. The sanctions imposed are as follows:

-- termination of assistance under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, except for humanitarian assistance for food or other agricultural commodities;

-- termination of sales of defense articles, defense services, or design and construction services under the Arms Export Control Act, and termination of licenses for the export of any item on the United States munitions list;

-- termination of all foreign military financing under the Arms Export Control Act;

-- denial of any credit, credit guarantees, or other financial assistance by any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States government;

-- the United States' opposition to the extension of any loan for financial or technical assistance by any international financial institution;

-- prohibiting United States banks from making any loan or providing any credit to the government of India, except for the purpose of purchasing food or other agricultural commodities; and

-- prohibiting export of specific goods and technology subject to export licensing by the Commerce Department.

Finally, the Secretary of State is making a similar determination under section 2(b)(4) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945; thereafter, the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank may not give approval to guarantee, insure, or extend credit, or participate in the extension of credit in support of United States exports to India."

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